

House Study Bill 56 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON KAUFMANN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act designating certain county flood mitigation activities
2 as an essential county purpose.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 331.441, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code
2 2021, is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:
3 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (20) The acquisition, construction,
4 reconstruction, and improvement of all waterways, and real and
5 personal property, useful for the protection or reclamation of
6 property from floods or high waters, and for the protection
7 of property from the effects of flood waters, including the
8 deepening, widening, alteration, change, diversion, or other
9 improvement of watercourses, the construction of levees,
10 embankments, structures, impounding reservoirs, pumping
11 stations or conduits, and the establishment, improvement, and
12 widening of streets, avenues, boulevards, and alleys across
13 and adjacent to the project, as well as the development and
14 beautification of the banks and other areas adjacent to flood
15 control improvements.

EXPLANATION

17 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
18 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

19 This bill amends the definition of essential county purpose
20 to include the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, and
21 improvement of all waterways, and real and personal property,
22 useful for the protection or reclamation of property from
23 floods or high waters, and for the protection of property
24 from the effects of flood waters, including the deepening,
25 widening, alteration, change, diversion, or other improvement
26 of watercourses, the construction of levees, embankments,
27 structures, impounding reservoirs, pumping stations or
28 conduits, and the establishment, improvement, and widening of
29 streets, avenues, boulevards, and alleys across and adjacent
30 to the project, as well as the development and beautification
31 of the banks and other areas adjacent to flood control
32 improvements.

33 Under Code chapter 331, a county board of supervisors may
34 generally contract indebtedness and approve the issuance of
35 general obligation bonds to carry out an essential county

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1 purpose without approval by voters at an election, while the
2 issuance of general obligation bonds to carry out a general
3 county purpose generally requires approval by voters at
4 election.